State of North Carolina

MICHAEL F. EASLEY
GOVERNOR

MINORITY ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT MONTH

2008

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, since 1983, the Minority Business Development Agency within the United States Department of Commerce, in conjunction with the United States Small Business Administration, hosts "Minority Enterprise Development [MED] Week" to honor the accomplishments of minority entrepreneurs across our country; and

WHEREAS, according to the US Department of Commerce and the US Bureau of Census there are more than 61,000 minority owned businesses in North Carolina that create over $6.7 billion of sales yearly; and

WHEREAS, during the month of September, thousands of minority entrepreneurs, corporate representatives and federal, state and local governments will participate in activities in recognition of the success achieved by minority businesses throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, the President of the United States has declared September 3-5, 2008, as "National Minority Enterprise Development Week"; and

WHEREAS, this annual celebration will be held in our nation's capital, with the theme "The Power of Strategic Alliances in the Global Economy"; and

WHEREAS, the objections of "Minority Enterprise Development Month" include increasing the awareness of minority individuals to the benefits, risks, requirements and rewards obtained through owing a business;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MICHAEL F. EASLEY, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim, September 2008, as **"MINORITY ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT MONTH"** in North Carolina and urge our citizens to celebrate the outstanding accomplishments made by minority-owned firms and to support minority business development.

MICHAEL F. EASLEY

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this twenty-sixth day of August in the year of our Lord two thousand and eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America two hundred and thirty-third.